

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/516,550

Applicant(s)

COUMANS ET AL.

Examiner

Anne M. Hines

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 12/11/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on December 11, 2007, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 1-8 are pending in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frank Keegan on January 16, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claim 4.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 1, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 1, and

specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors partly embedded in the seal of an electric lamp has the portions exposed to the atmosphere outside the lamp provided with means for protection against oxidation and the means for protection against oxidation includes a chromium-boron alloy.

Regarding claims 2-3, claims 2-3 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 1 because of their dependency status from claim 1.

Regarding independent claim 6, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 6, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors partly embedded in the seal of an electric lamp has the portions exposed to the atmosphere outside the lamp provided with means for protection against oxidation and the means for protection against oxidation is a coating that is chosen from the group of materials formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, chromium-boron alloys.

Regarding independent claim 5, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 5, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors partly embedded in the seal of an electric lamp has the portions exposed to the atmosphere outside the lamp provided with means for protection against oxidation and the means for protection against oxidation is a coating that is chosen from the group of materials formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, chromium-iron, and chromium-boron alloys and wherein the coating has a layer thickness of at least 1 μm and at most 6 μm .

Regarding independent claim 7, the references of the Prior Art of record fail to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 7, and specifically comprising the limitation wherein current conductors are provided with a means for protection against oxidation chosen from the group of materials formed by chromium-manganese, chromium-cobalt, chromium-iron, and chromium-boron alloys, characterized in that the alloy contains 80 to 99 atom percents of chromium.

Regarding claim 8, claim 8 is allowable for the reasons given in claim 7 because of its dependency status from claim 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne M. Hines whose telephone number is (571) 272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

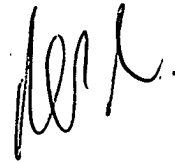
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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